

A New American Genus in the Chilopod Family Himantariidae

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A beautiful geophilid from Chiapas, Mexico, kindly presented to me by Dr. Nell B. Causey, represents a new genus and species in the Himantariidae. In this family it falls in the tribe Himantariini of Attems. From the other genera of this group it is widely distinct in the possession of the following combination of characters: ventral pores not in definitely limited areas; no coxal pores on last legs; telopodite of anal legs consisting of only five articles.

CAUSERIUM, new genus

Head much wider than long. Antennae thick, subcontiguous at base.

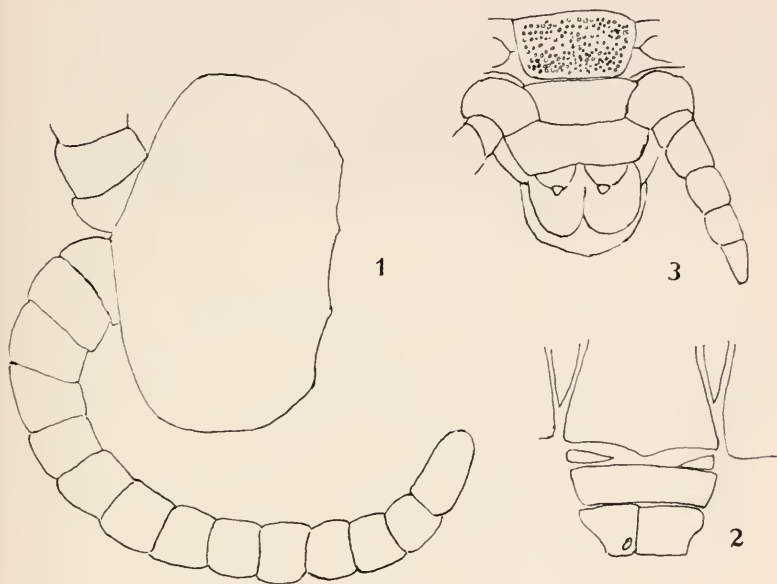
Labrum moderately incurved, its free margin finely denticulate throughout. Mandibles stout, typically bearing five stout, conical teeth. First maxillae with syncoxite divided by a longitudinal median line; telopodite with a stout lappet on ectal side. Second maxillae with anterior border of coxosternum showing the usual v-shaped median excision; claw of telopodite short and smooth.

Prehensors with claw and other joints of telopodite edentate.

Prosternum with anterior margin smooth, bearing neither nodules nor teeth; postcondylic sclerotic line or raphe present and complete, or very nearly so.

Tergites smooth, not bisulcate. The intertergites very short, each pointed at each lateral end. Paratergites in most segments in two series, the lower or principal tergite large, typically as long as the corresponding tergite and completely separating off the united spiracular and prescuttellar sclerites; above this large paratergite typically two others, one between each end of the principal plate and the tergite. Preparatergites proper apparently absent.

Sternites from first to penult bearing numerous ventral pores which are distributed rather loosely over the entire surface not in definite or clearly defined areas.



Causerium tuxtlanum sp. n.

FIG. 1. Dorsal view of head. FIG. 2. Paratergites and adjacent sclerites. FIG. 3. Caudal end, ventral view.

Spiracles all elliptic.

The last ventral plate broad; the adjacent coxae of last legs lacking glands and pores. Between the coxae and the last intertergite no definite pleurite. Telopodite of last legs composed of five articles, the last of which bears no claw.

Type species - - *Causerium tuxtlanum*, new species

***Causerium tuxtlanum*, new species**

Head much broader than long (4:3) anterior margin obtusely angular, the posterior margin weakly arcuate. Antennae moder-

ately long, thick, the basal joints much swollen, contiguous at base.

Labrum widely and moderately concave, the free margin finely denticulate, mandible and first maxillae as given in the generic diagnosis; the coxosternum of the second maxillae completely fused posteriorly, acutely notched in middle anteriorly; the claw of the palpus somewhat spoon-shaped, the article proximad of the claw bearing numerous setae.

Prosternum of prehensors unarmed, the post-condylic sclerotic line (raphe) strongly developed, ending at or a little caudo-laterad of the condyle.

Ventral pores numerous; present on all sternites from the first to the penult inclusive. The pores not in any sharply defined submedian area as usual in related genera. Pores on first sternite, however, relatively few but becoming rapidly more numerous on the following sternites and these distributed over the entire sternite, and sometimes somewhat more condensed at the corners and posteriorly.

Tergites in part finely granular, not definitely bisulcate. The intertergites narrow, acutely pointed at each lateral end. Paratergites and adjacent sclerites as shown in FIG 2.

Last ventral plate much wider than long, its anterior margin longer than the posterior. Adjacent coxae without evident glands or pores. Anal legs composed of fine articles distad of the coxa; clawless. See further FIG. 3.

Pairs of legs, circa 95.

Length, 92 mm.

Locality—MEXICO: Chiapas, vicinity of Tuxtla. One specimen collected by Miguel Alvarez del Toro in 1955.